

Exodus 33:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the children of Israel stripped themselves of their ornaments by the mount Horeb.

Analysis

And the children of Israel stripped themselves of their ornaments by the mount Horeb—Obedience follows command (v.5). The location 'mount Horeb' (Sinai) emphasizes the irony: at the very place they received the law and saw God's glory, they had rebelled. Now they strip away the trappings of pride and false worship. This external act symbolizes internal contrition. Yet stripping ornaments cannot restore fellowship—only God's gracious intervention through Moses' intercession (vv.12-23) will accomplish that.

Historical Context

Horeb and Sinai refer to the same mountain, with Horeb meaning 'desolate' or 'waste.' The mountain served as God's appointed meeting place with Israel, making their idolatry there particularly grievous.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. What external acts of repentance has God used to reflect and deepen your internal transformation?
2. How does the location of their repentance (where they had seen God's glory) intensify the tragedy of their sin?

Interlinear Text

וַיִּתְּנָצַל ו	בְּנֵי	אֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל ל	עַדֵּי מ
stripped	And the children	of Israel	themselves of their ornaments
H5337	H1121	H3478	H5716
יְהִי מֶה ר	חֹרֵב:		
by the mount	Horeb		
H2022	H2722		

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 33:4 (Parallel theme): And when the people heard these evil tidings, they mourned: and no man did put on him his ornaments.